

Greetings!

The NHDPlus team in collaboration with the California Water and Environmental Modeling Forum is pleased to invite you to participate in the upcoming “Getting to Know NHDPlus: Applying A National Geospatial Surfacewater Framework” Technical Workshop to be held on July 14-15, 2016 at the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) Wild Fire Training Center (WFTC) in Sacramento, CA. The Workshop is intended for Geographic Information System (GIS) practitioners, hydrologic modelers, and water resource analysts. It will provide the first opportunity, since the release of NHDPlus Version 2 in late 2012, for users to gather for formal training and to share their many applications and experiences. The latest techniques, tools, and data enhancements will be among the many topics covered. Attendees will have the chance to interact and share their own lessons learned with others from a growing and diverse NHDPlus user community. The Workshop will be conducted by the joint EPA-USGS NHDPlus team that developed and supports NHDPlus.

The NHDPlus Workshop immediately follows the American Water Resources Association Specialty Conference on GIS and Water Resources that will be held in Sacramento on July 11-13, 2016 (www.awra.org/meetings/Sacramento2016). This pairing of events presents a unique opportunity for you to engage a very active water resources geospatial community. We encourage you to attend both if you can.

If you aren't already familiar with NHDPlus, it is a suite of geospatial products that build upon and extend the capabilities of the National Hydrography Dataset (NHD) by integrating the NHD with the National Elevation Dataset and the Watershed Boundary Dataset. NHDPlus includes improved NHD names and networking, value-added attributes (such as stream order) that enable advanced query, analysis and display, elevation-derived catchments that integrate the land surface with the network, stream flow volume and velocity estimates for pollutant dilution modeling, and associated flow direction and accumulation grids. Additional information on NHDPlus is available at <https://www.epa.gov/waterdata/nhdplus-national-hydrography-dataset-plus>.

As part of this announcement we ask those of you whose NHDPlus applications are not already included on the NHDPlus Web site to please email me (dewald.tommy@epa.gov) a brief description of your work so others can learn about it. Just a sentence or two describing each NHDPlus application should do it – thanks in advance!

A draft Workshop agenda is attached for your information. Please note that the Workshop will focus primarily on the application of NHDPlus medium resolution (1:100,000-scale), while also addressing future plans for higher-resolution NHDPlus. We welcome your suggestions on specific agenda topics to include and request that you email them to me for consideration by May 8. There will be opportunities throughout the Workshop for existing users to briefly describe their work through lightning talks.

On July 14, the Workshop agenda will include technical presentations by the NHDPlus team on data content and access, usage techniques and methodologies, new tools and applications, and creating and maintaining linkages (events) to additional attribute

information housed in other water databases, such as the EPA's Assessment, TMDL Tracking and Implementation System (ATTAINS), and USGS's National Water Information System (NWIS). The morning of July 15 will include hands-on NHDPlus exercises to provide attendees with the opportunity to apply information presented the day before and to discuss their individual application interests and questions with the NHDPlus team. During the Workshop, feedback on data extensions, user documentation, technical support and additional NHDPlus tools will be sought.

The Workshop web site at www.cwemf.org/workshops/nhdpluswrkshp.htm contains information on registration, directions, computer requirements and contact information for any questions. Attendees should bring a laptop computer with the minimum software configuration specified on the web site.

Please confirm your attendance at the Workshop by registering in advance. There is a nominal registration fee required to attend the Workshop. See the Workshop web site for payment options.

The USFS WFTC web site at www.fs.usda.gov/detail/r5/fire-aviation/management/?cid=stelprdb5363444 provides information on local hotels, including the nearby Lions Gate Hotel. For those of you attending the AWRA conference earlier in the week, we understand that the discounted conference rate will still be offered for the nights of Wednesday, July 13, and Thursday, July 14, at the conference hotel. The conference hotel is approximately 5 miles from the USFS WFTC.

USEPA employees should list conference code MS308744 in the "Site Project" field under the "Accounting" tab when entering your travel through Concur.

We hope you will join us in applying NHDPlus to support the water resources community!

Best regards,

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